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SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE SUSSEX COUNTY CONTRACT BRIDGE ASSOCIATION HELD AT WORTHING BRIDGE CLUB ON FRIDAY 5TH MAY 2017 AT 6.30PM

Present:

Mr A Ryder
Mr R J Wheeler
Mr J Hardy

Chairman
Honorary Secretary
Honorary Treasurer

and 6 members, as shown in the record of attendance. Apologies were received from Peter Clinch, Martin Pool and Mervyn Wotton.

0. Opening Remarks

The Secretary rehearsed the background to this EGM and indicated that he had produced a short factual note for the record in relation to the AGM which had been aborted on 23rd April. This note would be published on the county web site along with the draft minutes from this EGM in due course.

1. Approval of note of AGM aborted on 10th April 2016 and minutes of EGM held on 6th May 2016

The note and minutes were approved as correct records.

2. Matters arising from the minutes

There were no matters arising.

3. Chairman's Report

3.1 The Chairman observed that another year had gone by and with it unfortunately, the passing of one of the best players Sussex has ever seen. Much had already been written about the stellar career of Sandra Landy. She will be sorely missed; her contribution to the success of the game of bridge has been immense.

3.2 On a happier note, the Chairman reported that following the cancellation of the EBU Junior Teach-in at Loughborough last year, he had decided to run a substitute event, primarily for the southern counties, at Ardingly College. This had been a great success with the hard work of David Dickson, Colin Smith, Gerry Stanford, Hazel Beveridge and Helen Kent ensuring a weekend enjoyed by over 30 youngsters. The event was boosted by the prior very generous donation of £5000 by Vivian Priday to establish an annual tournament for youngsters in memory of her husband Tony Priday.

3.3 The Chairman went on to say that, this year, EBED had decided to reinstate their teach-in, so he would be running a smaller non-residential course for juniors at the end of July. This would include playing for the Tony Priday Trophy. Elsewhere, teaching classes continued through Ollie Powell at the Avenue BC, Gerry Stanford and Martin Pool at Ardingly College and Ian Wright and Stephen Waters at Brighton College. The latter will soon be holding their second match, this time against Burgess Hill Girls' School. The Chairman was also looking to run more open days in schools this year and he invited attendees to contact him if they were aware of any schools which might be interested.

3.4 The Chairman said that there was of course much more to the make-up of Sussex bridge than the youth activities and he passed on his thanks all of his 'back room' colleagues who had worked tirelessly in keeping the county's bridge offerings going - Martin Pool our president, Mervyn Wotton our webmaster, Hazel Beveridge our membership secretary, Dick Wheeler our secretary, John Hardy our Treasurer, Joy Mayall and Gerry Stanford, both organisers of multiple events, and the other members of the management, tournament, selection and conduct committees. He welcomed Peter Clinch as the county's new Tournament Manager and also offered thanks to the many others who contributed to the county's tournament programme and to those who worked hard to ensure continuing success at club level.

4. Honorary Treasurer's Report

4.1 **Adoption of the Examined Annual Accounts.** The Honorary Treasurer reported that the certified income and expenditure account (distributed at the meeting) showed a surplus somewhat higher than that recorded in 2015. The year's outturn had been broadly to budget and the main reasons behind the surplus had been, firstly, as in 2015, the county's support of youth bridge had been funded from the residue of the Lottery allocation, and, secondly the achievement of a useful reduction in overheads. The total bank balance for the year ended 31 Dec 2016 had increased significantly primarily as a result of the very generous donation of £5000 by Vivian Priday. This would be used to support further investment in youth bridge, particularly to create an annual tournament in memory of the late Tony Priday. Prospects for a continuing picture of robust financial health were good. The accounts had been examined by the county's independent examiner, Ronald James, and he had been content to certify them. At the Management Committee meeting on 10 March, members had also endorsed the accounts unanimously. The Treasurer invited questions.

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None were forthcoming. It was proposed by David Galpin and seconded by Peter Bates that the accounts be adopted. By show of hands this was approved unanimously.

4.2 Appointment of Independent Examiner. The Honorary Treasurer announced that Mr Ronald James had agreed to be nominated for re-appointment as the independent examiner who would certify the County's accounts for a further year. Hazel Beveridge proposed and John Hardy seconded the re-appointment of Mr James. Members present approved this appointment unanimously.

4.3 Subscriptions for the Years 2017/18 and 2018/19. The Honorary Treasurer confirmed that the County P2P rate would remain at 7p for the year 2017/18 as approved at the 2016 EGM. He added that he was also pleased to be able to report that as current financial performance was broadly on budget, he did not believe that it would be necessary to increase the P2P rate next year. On a show of hands, David Galpin's proposal, seconded by Andrea Galpin, that the P2P rate for 2017/18 should be a maximum of 7p was carried unanimously.

4.4 Approval of membership T&C

The draft membership terms and conditions for 2017/18 had been circulated to Members present. The Honorary Treasurer indicated that there was no change from those of 2016/17. Hazel Beveridge proposed and Peter Bates seconded the approval of the membership T&C. Members present approved this unanimously.

5. Election of Officers

5.1 Chairman

The Honorary Secretary indicated that there was only one nomination for this post and he invited members present to agree to the election of **Andy Ryder**. Members present approved this appointment unanimously.

5.2 Vice Chairman

The Honorary Secretary reported that there were no nominations for this post. The Management Committee would consider options for filling this post as soon as possible.

5.3 Honorary Secretary

The Honorary Secretary reported that there was only one nomination for this post and he invited members present to agree to the election of **Dick Wheeler**. Members present approved this appointment unanimously.

5.4 Honorary Treasurer

The Honorary Secretary reported that there was only one nomination for this post and he invited members present to agree to the election of **John Hardy**. Members present approved this appointment unanimously.

6. Election of a Maximum of Ten Committee Members

There being only seven candidates (of the maximum of ten allowed by the constitution) nominated for these posts, the Honorary Secretary invited members present to agree to the election of the following:

Mr P Bates, Mrs H Beveridge, Mr P Clinch, Mrs A Galpin, Mr D Galpin, Mr M Wotton and Mr M Wright.

Members present approved these appointments unanimously.

7. Members' Resolutions

The Honorary Secretary reported that no Members' resolutions had been submitted.

8. Award of Gladys Hakki Trophy.

The Chairman expressed his great pleasure in awarding the Gladys Hakki Trophy for 2016/17 to **Mr Ernie Rivett**, Chairman of Worthing Bridge Club. Mr Rivett's planning, leadership and personal commitment over many years had been, and continues to be, instrumental in the success of Worthing Bridge Club.

9. Any Other Business.

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 6.50pm.